clear so that the persons concerned may realise this. As soon as they knew that their pepper was much in demand they pushed up the prices to such an extent that the United Nations came practically to a unanimous conclusion not to buy pepper from India. Gradually, therefore, the price of pepper came down. A deputation of the pepper merchants waited upon me asking me to take control over pepper and get the pepper sold. I pointed out to them that they had been their own enemies and that if they had quoted reasonable rates—if they had increased the price by 50—70 per cent or even 100 per cent. it would have been all right. But they pushed up the prices to such an extent that Travancore pepper became practically unsaleable. The United Nations are now trying again for the purchase.

So far as coir is concerned, when the Industries Demand comes up, I propose to obtain the sense of the whole House on the question whether Government control should continue and if so, under what circumstances. I would like to hear honourable members on that matter.

Similarly with regard to pepper. When the Agricultural Demand comes up, I would like to invite the opinion of the honourable House on that question so that the Government may be benefited by its advice.

The only thing that I wish to say in all these matters—nuts pepper and coir is that we are likely to be able to sell within the next year or thereabouts practically all our surplus provided we go about the business in a proper commercial manner, and the question is how it has to be done. So far as coir is concerned. I have already indicated the lines on which Government have been dealing with the larger producers and manufacturers. It is up to the small manufacturers and producers to organise themselves. If they will not organise they will have to sell their stock to Government. The opportunity is so great and the chances of establishing a world-wide market in coir are so bright that any false step at this stage will be wrong from our point of view.

With regard to pepper I am waiting to hear the remarks of the honourable members.

VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (*contd.*)

DEMAND IX—POLICE.

PRESIDENT : I have received a letter from Mr. P. S. Nataraja Pillai which reads as follows :—

"To the Secretary, Legislative Assembly.

Sir,

Will you please place before the President that our benches thought the discussion on the Police will be limited to that one motion which was moved first.

At any rate is there any possibility to allow one more speaker from our party ?"

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I may make one matter perfectly clear. During the general discussion of the Budget, the Chair is anxious to give every party the chance to make its views known to the House. But so far as cut motions are concerned I call persons according to the order in which they are printed in the motion sheet. If, by any chance, members of any party have not given notice of any cut motions they run a great risk of not being called.

There are ten minutes more left for the Demand. I propose to give the Inspector General five minutes for reply. For five minutes more I can hear any other honourable members.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA *(Nominated)*: In supporting the motion I was saying yesterday that no reference to the women Police has been made in the Administration Report of the Police Department for the year 1119. Sir, the matter is striking especially in view of the glowing references to this branch of the Women's Police which have been made in important utterances and statements. I need hardly point out that Travancore has stolen a march over the rest of India by this organisation of the Women Police. That being the case, there are people in Travancore and outside who are looking forward with interest to references to this branch in the Administration Report. Sir, as it is, one fails to know whether they are doing good, bad or indifferent work and whether there is any idea of revising their prospects or whether there is even any distant idea of abolishing this branch.

PRESIDENT: Not that I am aware of.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA: I am sorry sir that even the Inspector-General of Police has not made any reference to it in his informing statement and the learned representative of the department owes an explanation for this omission and it is to elicit information on this matter that I am supporting the motion.

MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU: In contributing to the discussion I may preface my remarks by paying a tribute to the Police by saying that their tone has definitely improved. But I cannot but point out the fact that the expenses we are paying for this department have mounted up. In 1102 we spent Rs. 5 lakhs and odd, in 1118 Rs. 9 lakhs and odd and in 1121 the demand on our revenue has increased to Rs. 18 lakhs. So since 1118 it has doubled. This is an enormous increase. The demand on the revenues of the State for maintaining the internal peace of the land has mounted up. When in 1118, we could maintain the peace by Rs. 9 lakhs we should spend double the amount in 1121. From the Administration Report of the Police Department, it can be seen that crime has definitely fallen. The salary of the higher ranks has increased. The superior grades have increased in number and the Police Department also is becoming top-heavy. The number of officers in the higher rank is definitely on the increase and today the Inspector General of Police has placed before this House for its acceptance the proposition of recruiting four more Assistant Superintendents of Police to the department. Commensurate with the enormous

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demand on the revenues of the State, have the amenities of the people increased? Has the efficiency of the force increased? The population in the last ten years has increased only by 19% and the Police force has increased by 100%. I ask how far this is justifiable? Are there any criminal tribes within the boundaries of the State? Have the amenities of the Police force increased?

I am in complete agreement with the proposition of Mr. P. K. Kunju that the pay of the lower ranks must be increased. Unless the ordinary policeman is paid enough salary he will be like a wolf let loose among sheep. Therefore the pay of the ordinary policeman has to be increased.

I ask can we not keep down the number of police constables and make them more contented, efficient and honest. In the superior grade has the efficiency really increased, I wonder. Sir, now we are called upon to pay an enormous penalty, nearly double, in the name of crime, and crime is definitely on the decrease. Why has the administrative cost gone high? Many criminals have gone to Assam. That is a fact which I bring to the notice of the Police Department. The crime has gone down not because of the efficiency of the Police Department but because people with criminal instinct have gone outside. The Administration Report of the Police Department itself had admitted that it is the exodus of the people with criminal sentences that has brought down crime. So this mounting expense shows a very appalling state of affairs.

Even from the National Party it was voiced that the ordinary man does not get a courteous treatment at the hands of the policeman. Unless the Government becomes the government of the ordinary man this state of affairs will continue. I do not find fault with the Police because until the Police become the Police of a Government of the ordinary man this state of affairs will prevail.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Sir, in supporting the motion, I want to say a few words about the method of recruitment of the constables. At present the recruitment is solely conducted by the Inspector General of Police. I suggest that in future the recruitment of the constables should be conduced by the Inspector General of Police in consultation with the Public Service Commissioner so that every community in the State may get their due representation in the Police force.

I am also of the opinion that the existing salary of the constables should be increased. The minimum salary of a constable should be at least Rs. 30 per mensem, that is one rupee per day. We cannot imagine the salary of a constable less than that amount because a constable has to maintain himself and his family properly.

PRESIDENT: Until that suggestion came from the honourable member I have received many applications for increase of the pay of constables, but nothing like that. Hereafter they will ask for Rs. 30 per mensem. But until now they have never asked for anything like

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[President]

that. I have received hundreds of applications and I am definite that nothing like that will be given—one rupee per day. Till now not a single constable has asked for one rupee a day.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: It is for the Government to decide. The Police Inspector should possess at least a University Degree so that he may command some public respect.

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYENGAR (*Inspector-General of Police*): That is so in regard to all direct appointments.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: We know that certain persons who are promoted as Inspectors have neither educational qualifications worth the name nor are they properly trained in the Police Training School. They must be given training by the Police Department as is being done in the case of direct recruits.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the member whether on account of the recruitment by the Inspector General of Police any community has not got its due quota ?

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: There may be.

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYENGAR: I will first apologise to the honourable lady member for the extreme lack of chivalry and courtesy in not mentioning the women Police force in the administration report. It was an oversight and I will make amends for it in the administration report for this year. They are doing excellent work and have received the commendation of Her Excellency the Vicereine when she inspected them at this Hall.

I have to express the gratefulness of this Department for the general tone of helpfulness with which an increased demand has been generally received.

I will now try to explain why there is an increase in cost of the Police. At the last revision, the salary of the ordinary policeman has been increased from about Rs- 9 to Rs: 14 as the minimum and that has largely contributed to the increase in the cost. Moreover, there has been a large increase in temporary forces. Quite about 50 per cent of the temporary force is due to war. It may be temporary or permanent. I cannot say anything definite now.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnathur*): May I know if the Police is made more efficient, cannot the number be reduced ?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYENGAR: That is one of my proposals. If the policemen are housed near the Police stations and the Inspectors can depend on the availability of a larger part of his staff to meet any emergency there may be occasion for reducing the strength of each Police station. That is one of the points in the proposals which I have already submitted to Government. I will have to consider the question with reference to each particular station on an examination of the work arising in that station.

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In regard to the pay of the Acting Inspectors, Government have kindly passed orders to the effect that they will get the minimum pay of the grade in which they are acting. I trust that rule will be made applicable in the case of other grades as well.

I may mention one or two things about the points raised here. One is about the posting of Police men in their native places. One honourable member was downright in his criticism of this rule. ..... It was after long and prolonged experience that in British India they have come to that conclusion and it is on those lines that our orders have also been passed in our Police orders written about 20 years ago. I only drew attention to an existing order after I came here.

A word with regard to another point which was mentioned by the honourable member for Neyyattinkara regarding civil disputes. It has been the practice in olden days, but the modern tendency is to get away from that. The Policeman who was also an important member of the village disposed of almost all cases that arose in the locality. But now times have changed. They have not the training to decide intricate questions of civil rights nor is their method conducive to amicable settlement of such disputes.

I will close down my remarks with one word. I have insisted on all my ranks to be what I may call, respectable and respectful. Respectful not merely to please the persons that approach them but an attitude arising from an innate self-respect. I will give another assurance that it will be the policy of all the officers in the department to be as far as possible considerate and at the same time firm and fearless. I request the honourable member who has moved the cut motion if he is satisfied to withdraw it.

The motion by leave was withdrawn.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 18,24,019 under Demand IX Police was put and carried.

The motion was passed and the grant was made.

DEMAND X—LAND REVENUE.

MR. G. NARAYANAN TAMPI (*Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 13,37,590 under Demand X Land Revenue.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Is it the honourable members' wish that I should go through the list as it is, or should I call the total allotment first? It is a matter entirely for the honourable members to decide. The motions relating to local grievances may be dealt with first before dealing with the general topics

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move that motion No. 308 may be taken up first.

MR. P. S. MOHAMED: Sir, if it is on the total grant, I would request that motion No. 307 may be taken up first?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Motion No. 308 is to discuss the recent announcement by the Dewan regarding new land revenue policy.

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